

MAY 31, 2011

Making the Most Out of Your Summer

Summer is here! Make the most out of this summer by spending quality time with your family. You don't need to spend a lot of money to have fun. Visit the websites below to find fun inexpensive activities for kids & families, vacation ideas and creative learning opportunities for your children this summer.



Fun, Low-Cost Summer Activities

www.greatschools.org/students/summer-activities/547-fun-low-cost-summer-activities.gs?page=all

10 Fun Summer Learning Activities

www.greatschools.org/students/summer-activities/68-summer-learning-activities-that-are-practically-free.gs?page=all



Turn Your Family Vacation into a Real Education

www.greatschools.org/students/summer-activities/221-add-education-to-your-vacation.gs?page=all

Ten Ways to Keep Your Child Reading this Summer

www.greatschools.org/students/homework-help/67-summer-reading.gs?page=all



Ten Ways to Build Math Skills This Summer

www.greatschools.org/students/homework-help/103-build-math-skills.gs?page=all



Alternative Homework Ideas (Creative Learning Opportunities)

<http://www.loveandlogic.com/pages/homework-help.html>



101 Fun Things To Do in the Summer

<http://www.parenting.com/article/fun-things-to-do-summer>

UNIVERSITY OF PHOENIX FIRST CHANCE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Through a partnership between the University of Phoenix and NFPA (National Foster Parent Association), NFPA is providing 15 full tuition scholarships redeemable at any University of Phoenix campus for youth in foster care, former foster youth and foster parents. Any foster parent applying for a First Chance Scholarship must be a member of NFPA or become a member at the time of application. The First Chance Scholarship is offered on a competitive basis and membership in NFPA is not a guarantee of receiving the scholarship.

Applicants must be one of the following:

- A current foster youth (graduated from high school before June 2011);
- An alumnus of foster care; or
- A foster parent who is either currently fostering a child or has fostered a child within the past two years; is and will remain licensed by the foster care system in their state; and will continue to foster children throughout the duration of the degree program.

Recipients may choose any campus they want to attend, including the online campus. The program will be administered by NFPA under the First Chance Scholarship umbrella. **The deadline for submitting applications is July 1, 2011.** The scholarship application is available online at: www.phoenix.edu/tuition_and_financial_options/scholarships/nfpa-scholarship.html



NOW OFFERING

SUMMER CLASSES!

Did you hear that IFAPA is offering classes in June, July & August?

Check out our entire summer schedule at:
www.ifapa.org

SUPPORT SERVICES PROVIDED BY IFAPA

We are here for you! We will listen, we understand and we can help!

PEER LIAISONS:

IFAPA employs eleven Peer Liaisons. They are experienced foster parents and may be adoptive parents as well. Our Peer Liaisons provide peer-to-peer support and mentoring to foster and adoptive parents. This includes providing information and assistance to families regarding foster care and adoption concerns, contacting newly licensed foster parents, and visiting area support groups. Our Peer Liaisons also maintain contact with the DHS to provide valuable information regarding systemic concerns and to learn of DHS issues of concern to foster parents; and share these concerns, information, and suggestions with IFAPA. The Peer Liaisons are employed part-time with IFAPA and work out of their homes.

Peer Liaison	Liaison's Phone Numbers & Email	Counties Covered by Liaison
Dave Brace	Toll-free: 866-547-1753 Independence area: 319-334-4547 Email: dbrace-ifapa@indytel.com	Allamakee, Buchanan, Clayton, Clinton, Delaware, Dubuque, Fayette, Howard, Jackson & Winneshiek
Kim Edwards	Toll-free: 877-845-4348 Sperry area: 319-985-2213 Email: edwardsifapa@yahoo.com	Cedar, Davis, Des Moines, Henry, Jefferson, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa, Muscatine, Scott, Van Buren & Washington
Linda Dodson	Toll-free: 888-491-3455 Des Moines area: 515-953-0515 Email: Ldodsonifapa@q.com	Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Madison, Ringgold, Union & Polk (Zip Codes - 50009, 50035, 50073, 50169, 50237, 50301, 50305, 50312, 50313, 50314, 50315, 50316, 50317, 50320, 50321, 50327)
Vickie Janssen	Toll-free: 877-70-IFAPA (877-704-3272) Des Moines area: 515-961-0060 Email: janssen.ifapa@live.com	Boone, Dallas, Warren & Polk (Zip Codes - 50021, 50023, 50109, 50111, 50131, 50226, 50263, 50265, 50266, 50310, 50311, 50322, 50323, 50325)
Julie Mather	Toll-free: 877-53-IFAPA (877-534-3272) Van Horne area: 319-228-8592 Email: jmather_ifapa@netins.net	Benton, Jones & Linn
Christie McGuire	Toll-free: 800-720-9850 code 62 Garner area: 641-923-2618 Email: cmcguireifapa@gmail.com	Cerro Gordo, Chickasaw, Floyd, Hamilton, Hancock, Mitchell, Story, Winnebago, Worth & Wright
Dianna Seedorff	Toll-free: 888-622-4521 Waterloo area: 319-235-2534 Email: seedorff_ifapa@hotmail.com	Black Hawk, Bremer, Butler, Franklin, Grundy, Hardin, Marshall & Tama
Julie Seemann	Toll-free: 800-484-6676 code 5754 Oskaloosa area: 641-673-4049 Email: julies_ifapa@hotmail.com	Appanoose, Iowa, Jasper, Johnson, Lucas, Mahaska, Marion, Monroe, Poweshiek, Wapello & Wayne
John Smith	Toll-free: 877-305-3396 Lake View area: 712-665-3396 Email: jsmithifapa@netins.net	Calhoun, Carroll, Crawford, Greene, Humboldt, Ida, Pocahontas, Sac, Webster & Woodbury
Kelly Upton	Toll-free: 877-807-8009 Ruthven area: 712-837-5333 Email: kellyuifapa@ruthventel.com	Buena Vista, Cherokee, Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, Kossuth, Lyon, O'Brien, Osceola, Palo Alto, Plymouth & Sioux
Hector Villarreal	Toll-free: 877-352-1299 Council Bluffs area: 712-352-1299 Email: ifapa-hectorv@q.com	Audubon, Cass, Fremont, Guthrie, Harrison, Mills, Monona, Montgomery, Page, Pottawattamie, Shelby & Taylor
RIS Staff	RIS's Phone Numbers & Email	Additional Areas of Expertise:
Nancy Magnall	Toll-free: 877-467-4100 Waverly area: 319-352-3600 Email: magnall_ifapa@msn.com	Educational Advocacy, HIV/AIDS, Learning Disabilities, Special Education & Support Group Facilitation
Angela Stark	Toll-free: 877-788-7255 Des Moines area: 515-261-7255 Email: starkifapa@aol.com	Adoption Subsidy, Adoption Tax Credit, Allegations of Abuse, Kinship/Relative Care & Public Policy

RESOURCE INFORMATION

SPECIALISTS:

IFAPA employs two Resource Information Specialists who are available to answer questions on adoption and foster care issues. They can provide information on a variety of topics such as working with birth families, explaining foster care and adoption to children, understanding children's mental health, seeking out respite options, dealing with behavior challenges, choosing a therapist who is adoption/foster care sensitive, and more. They also work from their homes and have additional areas of expertise.

DID YOU KNOW? IFAPA's Peer Liaisons and Resource Information Specialists provide support to an average of 2,000 foster, adoptive and kinship parents each month.